ENTRANCE TO MONTACUTE HOUSE, WILTSHIRE.

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We have previously given illustrations of Montacute House, near Yeovil, in Wiltshire; but the oldest, and, as far as architectural style is concerned, the best portion, has never been given by us, nor has it, indeed, been ever fairly illustrated in any work. Our view shows the north entrance to the building, which was commenced in 1580, and finished in 1601, for Sir Edward Phelips, serjeant to Queen Elizabeth. The screen, or entrance, shown in our view, is of the latest Tudor-Gothic style,—much older than the building itself. It is a fine example of the style, and such specimens are very few in number. This screen was an addition to the building about the time of Charles the Second, on the occasion of pulling down an ancient Gothic residence belonging to the family. The front was brought to Montacute, and placed so that a passage was obtained, connecting the two wings, the centre being only one room in depth. The house must have been very inconvenient (at least to modern notions) before this addition.

The old house must have been a very elegant specimen of the beautiful English Tudor-Gothic style. That the front of it was much larger than the present screen, we see by the numerous fragments of the turrets, placed as ornaments in various positions of the present building. The shield over the entrance gateway, held by children, boldly carved and sur-

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